



## NORTHWEST COLORADO FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT

### NEWS RELEASE

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### **Four Mile Fire estimated to be 450 acres**

Craig, Colo. – The Four Mile Fire, 30 miles north and northeast of Craig, is 450 acres and lightning-caused. Fire fighters observed extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs through sage brush and grass. Within one half mile of the fire was a residence which was evacuated. The residence was not damaged and there were no injuries but one haystack was burned.

Incident Commander Ron Simpson indicated that the blaze most likely made its big push yesterday and fire fighters will begin mop-up and securing the perimeter today. They will also have the opportunity to get a more accurate fire size using a GPS (Global Positioning System). The Colorado Juniper Valley 20-person fire crew will arrive later today.

“The fire responders on this incident worked hard and fast to get people out of harm’s way and they did it safely,” said Colt Mortenson Northwest Colorado Fire Management Officer.

Responding resources were: Moffat County Sheriff’s Office; Moffat County Road and Bridge Department; Craig Fire and Rescue; Baggs, Wyoming Volunteer Fire Department; and Bureau of Land Management. Single engine air tankers (SEATs) from the Colorado Division of Fire Protection and Control and Casper, Wyoming dropped four loads of retardant.

The incident started on BLM land and burned on to private land. The blaze is 10% contained with full containment expected August 16 if conditions remain favorable.

The Boston Flats Fire eight miles west of Maybell on Colorado State land off Highway 318 is 20 acres and now contained.

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center received over a dozen fire and smoke reports yesterday. Assisting with the other fires reported in Moffat and Rio Blanco counties were Craig Fire and Rescue, Meeker Volunteer Fire Department, Rangely Rural Fire Department and Maybell Volunteer Fire Department. The majority of incidents were one tenth acre.

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